Terrorists won't bother to target the Washington State Ferry (WSF) system: our own government is doing a better job at destroying it than Al Quaida ever could.

Airport-style security measures are unnecessary, would further cripple our economy and jam the roads as people drive around, and simply would not work.

Ferries are not airplanes... they don't go fast and they don't go far. And ferry passengers are not airline passengers: a great many WSF passengers make two trips a day with a full workday in the middle while even hardcore business travellers rarely make more than a few flights a month.

Our ferries carry cars and trucks, each of which carries gasoline or diesel fuel. What good does it do to search shoes when it is a simple matter to undetectably rig a fuel tank to ignite?

Airport-style screening of walk-on passengers is useless since every single vehicle can easily hide dozens more banned items than anyone could walk on with. I'll take my tire iron against your knitting needle any day. And what about the ferry's fire axes?

It is impossible to achieve an airport level of security on a regional commuter ferry system that carries private vehicles. I can't help but think that this proposal is mostly to show that the bureacratic/political arses are covered.